

SOJOURNER TRUTH.

A Account of One of Her Interviews with President Grant.

The Personal Appearance of the Aged and Illustrations "Lybian Sibyl."

G. B. Stebbins.

I knew Sojourner Truth more than forty years ago in New England. She was then seventy years old, but seemed hardly beyond the prime and glory of her womanhood. In those days Harriet Beecher Stowe described her as "the Lybian Sibyl," gifted with prophetic insight and tall and erect like a strong and graceful African palm tree. She will do more housework of the heaviest kind than two ordinary women, and yet be one of the best watchers by a sickbed at night. A sick man she lifted to the best place on his bed as easily and tenderly as a mother would lift her baby, and the touch of her hand smoothing the pillow and stroking the fevered brow was health and quiet, while her wail, "There, honey, you're easier now," had a strange power to give ease and calm.

Untrained in grammar or rhetoric, never able to read or write, there was a quaint disregard for set rule of speech in her public and private discourse, but no line rhetorician could make his meaning plainer and few could equal her in power of expression or exuberance of imagery. A few years after the close of the civil war I went with her to the Senate reception room in the capitol at Washington. She stood beneath the center of its arched ceiling and the deep look of her wonderful eyes seemed to take in the beauty of pictured forms and glowing colors on its walls, as she said: "Dis is like the picture chambers of de New Jerusalem dat dey read about in de Book." Then she looked out of the window and saw the poor huts of the freed people not far away, and she said in her tones: "But they don't have dem over there." A great gospel of divinity and of tender humanity seemed spoken in two brief sentences. Great souls can move other souls.

"AS THE SPIRIT TOLD HER."

In the winter of 1871-2 I spent some time in Washington, and about midwinter learned that Sojourner Truth was in the city. Had I not known her ways this would have been a surprise, for the long winter's journey from her home at Battle Creek, in the center of Michigan, was a serious undertaking for a woman near her hundredth birthday. But I knew that she always went "as the good spirit told her," and that some strong feeling of duty led her to do what she did to the capital city. Her way opened, not long after, for some good service among the freedmen at the hospitals. I soon went to see her and she said, with great earnestness: "I believe de good Lord sent you, for you are de very one I wanted to see." Asking what was especially wanted, she said: "I want to see President Grant, and you can get me there." I told her that was easier said than done, but I would try, and the next day I wrote a note to him, saying she wished to see him at some time, took it to the White House, sent it in to the business office, and a verbal message came back to me in the waiting room that any morning would suit.

In a few days Sojourner, with two ladies, a venerable friend of Quaker birth and myself, went to meet the appointment and I sent in a card, "Sojourner Truth and friends," which brought back in half an hour a messenger to escort us to President Grant's office. It sat at the end of a long table in the center of the room, with documents piled before him, and just closing an interview with other persons. I stepped forward to introduce the party and to bring Sojourner beside the table. She had met President Lincoln, and he, a born Kentuckian, could call her "Auntie" in the old familiar way, while Grant, though kindly, was reticent, and all was not quite easy at first. But a happy thought came to her. Not long before the President had signed some bill of non-guarantees of justice to the colored people. She spoke of this with gratitude; the thin ice broke and words came freely from both, for Grant was an easy and fluent talker, but had the wisdom of silence until the fit time came to speak.

Standing there, tall and erect while stirred in soul by the occasion, her wonderful eyes glowed as she thanked him for his good deeds and gave wise counsel in her own clear and quaint way.

FINE AND SIMPLE DIGNITY.

Her words came in tones full of deep power and tenderness, and he listened with great interest and respect, and told her that he "hoped always to be just to all, and especially to see that the poor and defenseless were fairly treated." His voice and manner told how his heart was touched, and his softened tones showed how "the bravest are the tenderest." She told him how his tasks and trials were appreciated, and how much faith was placed in his upright doing of duty to the oppressed, and he quietly, yet with much feeling, expressed the hope that he might ever be wise and firm and never forget the inalienable rights of all.

Only great souls can comprehend true greatness, and these two understood each other. Nothing in the illustrious career of General Grant gave me a fuller sense of his largeness of heart and mind than his unpretending simplicity and appreciative respect in this interview, while the fine and simple dignity of Sojourner Truth also gave a fuller sense of her large womanhood. She said to him: "I have a little book here that I call my book of life. A good many names are in it, and I have kept a place on the same page with Lincoln's for you to write your name." He replied: "I am glad to put it there," and wrote his autograph in her little book. She then said: "It will do me good for you to have my photograph," and with evident pleasure he thanked her and selected one from several laid out on the table.

The conversation had lasted beyond the usual time, others stood by, waiting their turn, yet listening with great interest, and the fit time came to leave. The President rose from his chair and gave Sojourner his hand with a parting word of good will. This mutual respect and appreciative sympathy between the President of a great republic and a woman born a slave and representing an oppressed people was admirable and inspiring.

Clebune.

Special to the Gazette.
CLEBURNE, TEX., Sept. 15.—Mr. Bud Hall had the flesh from his right arm badly cut and lacerated by the Keys fire, located on the Hillsboro road about four

miles south of Cleburne. As the bones of the arm were not injured, he was doing well when last heard from.

The fire boys were out this evening with their new hose carriage practicing. The boys are proud of their new carriage, and as it will be drawn by horses, they can make their work at fires more effective.

The school examining board have about finished their labors. Certificates were issued to those who were successful in their examinations. On account of the standard being raised, only a few first-class certificates were issued.

SAN ANTONIO.

Joint City Hall and County Courthouse—Sudden Death.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., Sept. 15.—At a meeting to-day between the County Commissioners and a committee of the City Council it was decided to build a joint city hall and county courthouse. The new building will be located on Military plaza and will cost about \$225,000. It is intended to make it the handsomest and best appearing structure in the state except the state capitol at Austin.

C. D. Rhoddis of the firm of Rhoddis & Tempy, the largest music dealers in the state, was found dead in the Odd Fellows' hall this evening. He was organist of the lodge, and had gone to the room to tune the instrument preparatory to to-night's meeting. The lodge room is situated in the third story of the large building corner of Houston and St. Mary's streets, and it is presumed that climbing the long stairway produced apoplexy and he died before assistance could be called.

Prematurely Aged.

Many a woman is robbed of those charms which the gentler sex value so highly, and made old before her time by functional irregularities. To such the bloom of youth may be restored by the use of a remedy which has stood the test of time and which is today acknowledged to be without an equal as a cure for all female weaknesses. Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription." By all druggists.

JEFFERSON.

Business Transacted in the Federal Court Normal Appointments.

JEFFERSON, TEX., Sept. 15.—The following is a complete list of the business transacted thus far in the Federal court since it commenced: Clara B. Toothmann vs. Texas and Pacific Railway Company, continued; Rice Hughes vs. A. G. Crompton et al, continued; Thomas D. Satter & Co. vs. H. M. Micky, judgment for \$200; L. M. Ramsey Manufacturing Company vs. Texas Iron Foundry and Machine Works Company, at this writing the jury is out, but have reported once they could not agree and the Judge sent them back to the jury room; R. M. Parks vs. M. B. Filpen, judgment for \$1480; R. M. Parks vs. James Marx, garnishee dismissed at plaintiff's cost; R. M. Parks vs. Max Munsheimer, same; R. M. Parks vs. Citizens Bank, Texas Bank; J. N. Crawford vs. Lamprey, dismissed at defendant's cost; James Houghton vs. the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, same; C. C. Buckner vs. Louprey Company, same; Mrs. Dora Barnum vs. H. B. Cladin et al, continued; George Davis vs. Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, dismissed at defendant's cost; Mayes & Fish vs. J. C. Hall & Co., judgment for \$1200; Louis E. Marx vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, dismissed at defendant's cost; William Jenkins vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, same; John McKinney vs. Texas and Pacific Railway Company, same; Robert Hunt vs. Texas and Pacific Railway Company, same; Mary Owens vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, dismissed; L. S. Roach vs. Texas and Pacific Railway Company et al, dismissed at plaintiff's cost; Lizzie Gail vs. Texas and Pacific Railway, dismissed at defendant's cost; A. Kahn & H. Wolf vs. A. Hoffman, continued; Mount Vernon County vs. J. J. Hall, judgment for defendant; J. J. Croft vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, dismissed at defendant's cost; L. C. Buckner vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, same; James Houghton vs. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, same; C. B. Haycock et al. vs. Missouri Pacific Railway, dismissed; Matilda Davis vs. Missouri Pacific Railway, dismissed at defendant's cost; Henry Stickney vs. Insurance Company, set for trial September 27.

Hon. W. T. Armsstead has appointed Miss Nannie Taylor, daughter of Mr. John Taylor of this county, to the Huntsville Normal school for this senatorial district.

Married at Palestine.

PALFESTINE, TEX., Sept. 15.—Mr. Daniel McLean, a popular young merchant of Augusta, Houston county, was married at the Methodist church this evening to Miss Mary Lou Nansen, daughter of Mr. George W. Nansen of this city. Rev. J. S. Mathis performing the ceremony. There was a sumptuous bridal supper at the house of the bride's parents and a number of elegant presents from friends of the happy couple. Following are the attendants: Mr. B. McConnell of Crockett and Miss Jennie Nansen, Palestine; Mr. A. H. Wolters, Crockett, and Miss Mary Kennedy, Augusta; Mr. J. Herrin, Galveston, and Miss Fannie Ryall, Palestine; Mr. J. T. Allison, Galveston, and Miss Bessie Davis, Augusta; Dr. W. H. Wilson, Augusta, and Miss Ida Mitchell, Palestine.

Not the Time to Cry Revenge.

CHICAGO, ILL., Sept. 15.—The Arbitrator Zeitung, of which Spies was editor, in announcing the decision says: The Supreme court at Ottawa, the legal instrument of the capitalistic reign, has affirmed the outrageous verdict which decides that seven of our best comrades shall suffer the death of martyrs for the cause of the laboring people, and that the eight shall serve a fifteen years' sentence in the penitentiary. We, however, are the adherents of Spies and his comrades, and we will not cry out for revenge at an inopportune time, but we will do everything that remains to be done.

Kaufman.

KAUFMAN, TEX., Sept. 15.—The courthouse here is receiving the finishing touch by being furnished with all the necessary furniture, seats and office fixtures, which are said to be of most excellent quality.

Several new bricks are in contemplation on our square.

THE GAZETTE is fast gaining popularity with our people.

WEST POINT APPOINTMENT.

A Competitive Examination to be Held in Fort Worth October 8 Hillsboro, Tex., Sept. 14, 1887.

To the Public.
Having been invited by the Secretary of War to nominate a candidate for appointment to the United States military academy at West Point, from this congressional district, I hereby give notice that a competitive examination will be held at Fort Worth on Saturday, the 8th day of October, 1887, at which time and place all persons who desire to compete for the appointment will report for examination.

Applicants will be subjected to a rigid physical examination. They must be free from any infectious or immoral disorder, and from any deformity, disease or infirmity which may render them unfit for military service. They must be seventeen years of age and not over twenty-one, at least five feet in height and unmarried.

Applicants must be well versed in reading, in writing, including orthography, in arithmetic, and have a good knowledge of the elements of English grammar, of descriptive geography—particularly of our own country—and of the history of the United States.

The conditions of the body and mind will be considered together, in connection with moral character and general proficiency in the studies as a whole. Natural ability and manifest aptitude for acquiring and applying knowledge will take precedence of mere scholastic finish and readiness of answer to formal questions.

I shall reserve the right to select a candidate and an alternate from the three who possess the highest qualifications.

Every one desiring to go before the board for examination will please notify me by letter in advance, and give me his full name, exact age and postoffice address. Respectfully,
O. H. ABBOTT.

GAINESVILLE.

Alfred Williams Has His Examining Trial. A Row at a Dance.

Special to the Gazette.

GAINESVILLE, TEX., Sept. 15.—The examining trial of Alfred Williams, charged with the murder of John Ware on September 2, has been going on to-day before Justice Holman. The accused is very youthful in appearance, and the witnesses who were present at the affray are still younger than Williams, being mere boys. The evidence produced thus far is somewhat more favorable to the accused than was the testimony taken at the inquest, and he will probably be granted bail. The County Attorney and Potter, Potter & Edlemann appear for the state, while Hon. R. V. Bell appears for the defendant.

In the District court to-day J. T. Harris filed suit against C. and L. Washington to remove cloud from title to two acres out of the M. E. Clark survey.

A new fence is to be put up around the courthouse in the next few days.

Cy Ritchie, a young business man of this city, and Miss Adelaide Hughes, one of Gainesville's most attractive young ladies, were married at the Cumberland Presbyterian church to-night by Rev. J. M. Keeton.

A team belonging to E. Redman ran away yesterday, causing the wagon to which they were hitched to be smashed up, and the breaking up of a farm wagon they came in collision with. Mr. Redman was run over by his wagon, but escaped injury.

Mrs. Thompson, the mother of Mrs. N. P. Pugh, fell on the steps of the Baptist church last night and broke her arm, sustaining a very painful injury.

Two young colored youths named Jack Henry and Eugene Brockman were judged yesterday afternoon for robbing the cash-drawer of M. Tunge & Bro. of a small amount.

A row occurred at a negro dance on Chestnut street last night, and the police had to be called in. Georgia Cravens, one of the participants, was struck on the head with a stone by one of her jealous admirers.

Mrs. Annie Inge of Denton is visiting relatives in this city.

Dr. Strauss of Belleville, Ill., is in the city.

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THE GAZETTE has the pleasure to announce the completion of arrangements for a series of

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These articles by Mrs. Wilcox give undoubted promise of proving the most popular and successful series of papers written by a woman for a number of years. The remarkable popularity that attends all of Mrs. Wilcox's writings will even be eclipsed in the present instance, as she has chosen a list of subjects upon which she is especially adapted to write with ease and ability, and will advance opinions which she has long desired to make public. The utmost care will be exercised in the preparation of these articles to make them

Thoroughly Bright and Readable

and adapted to the wide audience by which they will be read. The series will consist of thirteen letters in all, the first to appear in

THE DAILY GAZETTE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2d,

And the last of the series on

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th.

Among the subjects which Mrs. Wilcox will treat in these letters may be mentioned the following:

I. FLIRTING: Its Various Phases and Effects. Some Things I know about It From Experience and Observation.

II. The Temptations of Girls. Temptations of Young Women in City And Country Contrasted—How Men Tempt Women—How Women Tempt Men—Which Sex Is Really Most at Fault?—Are Men More Wicked Than Women?

III. The Modern Woman and Dress. Is the American Woman Overdressed? What Time and Money Should Women Give to Dress?—Should the Decollete Dress Be Worn?—Its Effect on Society—How Men Regard the Question and the Wearers.

IV. Ingersoll at Home. How the Great Agnostic Lives—His Home Life—How His Private Life Corresponds With His Public Teachings—His Opinions of Interviews and Interviewers—Has He Done More Harm Than Good?

V. Women in Business. The Mistakes Some Women Make in Regard to Their Abilities—Personal Experiences With Would-be Poets, Authors and Actors—Some Private Advice Publicly Given.

VI. Friendships of Men and Women. Are Men Better and More Unselfish in Their Friendships for Women Than Our Own Sex?—Some Experiences and Anecdotes.

The remaining letters will treat of topics equally popular and timely.

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